

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In reply to the Office Action dated August 1, 2005, Applicants have amended the application as above. No new matter has been added by the amendments as discussed below. Applicants respectively request the entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments and the remarks set forth below.

Claims 1-10 are active in the present application. Independent Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to address the meaning of "a presentation paper making-up utility" raised in the outstanding Action as more fully discussed below. Support for this amendment appears at page 19, lines 17-20, for example. Claim 7 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-10 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,742,116 to Matsui et al. (hereinafter, Matsui).

With respect to the rejection of Claims 1-10 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, the outstanding Action states that it is unclear what the applicant really means by "a presentation paper" and "a presentation paper making-up utility."

In order to clarify the claims, the specification wording of a "contribution paper making-up utility" have been adopted as the papers prepared using this utility are the papers that will be published in the journal. See the above-noted supporting disclosure at page 19, lines 17-20.

Further note that MPEP § 2173.02 makes it clear that the words of the claims are not to be analyzed in a vacuum as to any question of compliance with the requirements of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112. This section further emphasizes that the claim analysis must include "[t]he content of the particular application disclosure."

Accordingly, as the claim language requiring the user to be provided with "a contribution paper making-up utility" would be understood when considered in light of page 19, lines 17-20, as the MPEP and case law cited therein require it to be considered, withdrawal of this rejection of Claims 1-10 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

Before considering the prior art rejection based upon Matsui, it is believed that a brief discussion of the present invention would be helpful. In this respect, the present invention relates to a method for creating and operating cyber-conference and system for the same. Independent Claims 1 and 8 require, *inter alia*, that the cyber-conference operation server provides a user client with a contribution paper making-up utility. This feature of independent Claims 1 and 8 ensures that a cyber-conference operation server will provide a user client with a contribution paper making-up utility, which is used so that the paper the contributor prepares is in a form to be included in the journal of papers being published.

Turning to the rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsui, it is noted that this rejection includes unfounded assumptions as to the meanings of various claim features that go far beyond any reasonable interpretation of such claim features.

As noted in the last response, Matsui discloses that a security program is installed on a plurality of user terminals, which communicate with one another via an electronic conference room. As also noted in the last response, this electronic conference room is a mere chat room or cyber-space facility where the various users can communicate with each other.

The outstanding Action (in the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4) includes the unfounded assumptions that the previously recited "a presentation paper making-up utility" can in some undefined way be reasonably interpreted as corresponding to the Matsui disclosed "security program ... that can display a command button on the screen, the

electronic conference room, an icon . . . ”

This interpretation completely ignores the previous recital of Claim 1 as to “receiving, at the conference client, a presentation paper from the user client, wherein said presentation paper has been written using the presentation paper making-up utility of step (e),” (emphasis added) and the previous requirement as to the “conference client” of Claim 8.

Clearly, nothing in the Matsui disclosed “security program . . . “ that controls the noted “display” has anything to do with receiving anything that can be reasonably called a “paper,” and certainly this security program cannot be said to have anything to do with writing any kind of “paper.”

The outstanding Action further suggests that it is in some way reasonable to interpret the requirement of Claim 1 for “publishing . . . a journal of papers presented during the cyber-conference” to be interpreted to be a totally unrelated disclosure of Matsui as to “display a sign such as an icon . . . to identifying the electronic room” Clearly this display is in no way reasonably equated to anything remotely resembling “publishing . . . a journal of papers presented during the cyber-conference.”

The contribution paper making-up utility of amended Claims 1 and 8 is used when a “paper” contributor (that is, a user client) prepares a “paper” to be contributed for publication in the journal. On the other hand, the security program displays a command button – the command button allows a user to choose between an encryption-on mode and encryption-off mode – on the screen.

Also, the conference client publishes the journal including such a “paper” prepared using the claimed contribution paper making-up utility. On the other hand, the security program displays a sign such as an icon of a key at predetermined locations on the display of the user terminal.

Therefore, at least the features of the claimed invention as to providing the

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contribution paper making-up utility to the user client, receiving the paper written by the contribution paper making-up utility from the user client, and then publishing a journal including the paper are not reasonably taught or suggested by Matsui.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and allowance of Claims 1 and 8 are, therefore, respectfully requested.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of dependent Claims 2-7, which contain all of the limitations of independent Claim 1, and the rejection of dependent Claims 9 and 10, which contain all of the limitations of independent Claim 8, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should also be withdrawn for the reasons set forth above as to independent Claims 1 and 8.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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